MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

MT. PISGAH

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

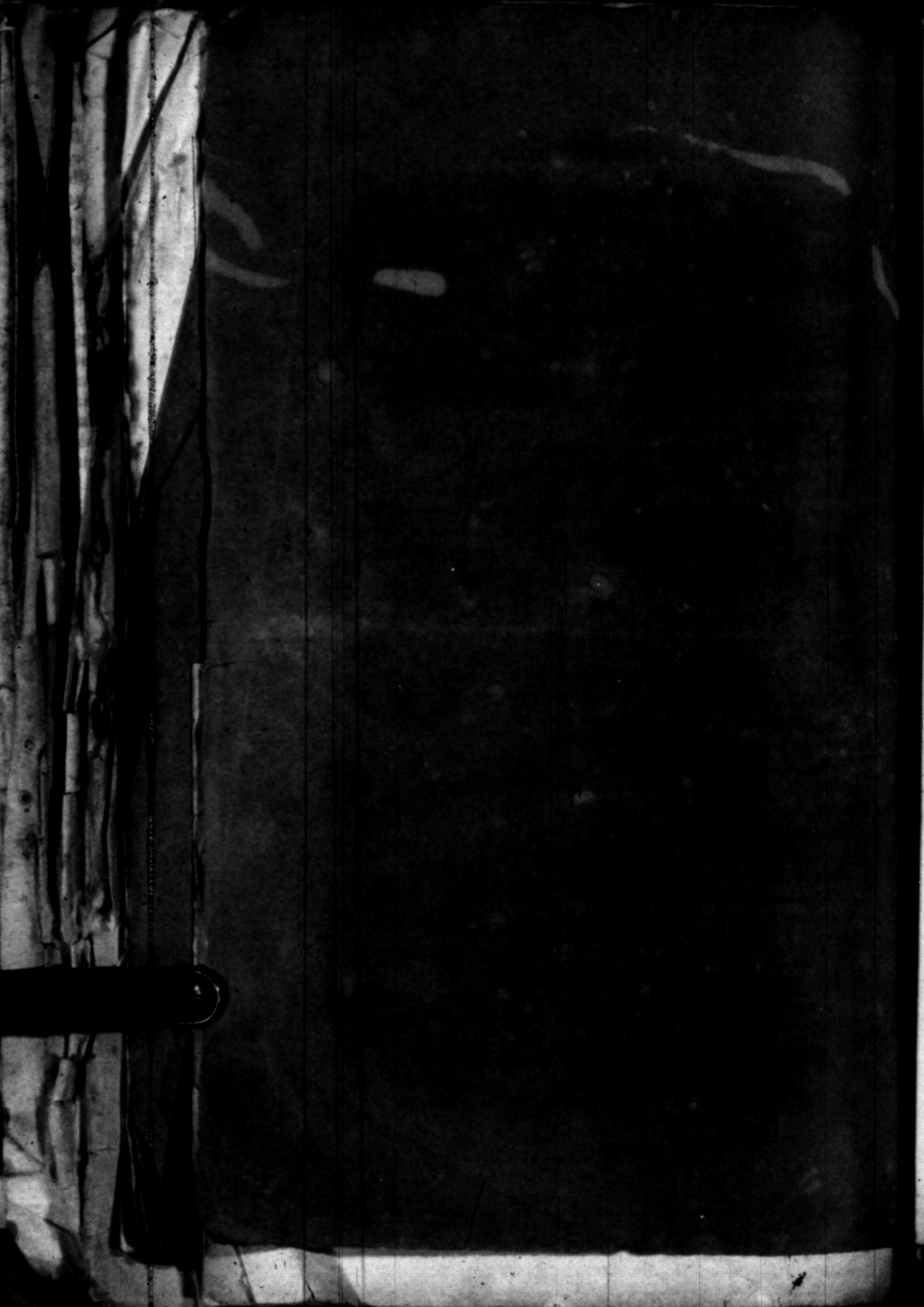
HELD WITH THE

MT. PISGAH CHURCH,

JASPER CO., MISS.

On the 13th, 14th and 15th September, 1855.

1858



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MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST BOOK AND JOB OFFICE
JACKSON, MISS.
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MINUTES.

Mt. Pisgah Church, Jasper Co., Miss., }
September 14th, A. D 1861. }

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association convened this day in her Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting, pursuant to adjournment.

Elder L. P. Murrell, who was appointed last year to preach the Introductory Sermon, being absent, Elder W. West, his alternate, addressed the delegates, together with a large congregation, at the stand, from Matthew 16 c—18 v., "And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

After an intermission of half an hour, the Delegates met in the house, and the Association was called to order by the Moderator, Elder N. L. Clarke; Bro. West led in prayer.

Elders B. Sims and G. Myers, were requested to preach at the stand.

Bro. A. Eastland, A. C. Gunn, and A. Clarke, were appointed to read letters.

Bro. B. Thigpen appointed Assistant Clerk.

Bros. W. L. McIntosh, W. W. Hardy and Josh. Collins, appointed a Committee on Finance.

Letters were read from thirty-five churches, names of Delegates enrolled, and statistics minuted; Center Hill, Herbert, Pinckney, Shiloh and Etahoma, not represented.

Hopewell and Spring Hill, dissolved.

(See table of churches.)

The Association proceeded to elect her officers, which, on motion of Bro. B. Thigpen, was done by acclamation, resulting in the election of former officers: Elder N. L. Clarke, Moderator, W. R. Butler, Clerk, and Ish'l Bailiff, Treasurer. The Moderator, before taking his seat, made a few appropriate remarks.

On motion, visiting brethren were invited to seats with the body.

On motion, reading the Rules of Decorum was dispensed with for the present.

An opportunity given for the admission of new churches. The following presented petitionary letters, and being found orthodox, were received into the fellowship of this body, viz: Siloam, Simpson county, Miss., and Mt. Vernon, Jasper county, Miss.

Called for correspondence, but none appeared, in consequence, we suppose, of the change made at our last session in the time of our annual meetings, (from Saturday before 2d Sabbath in October, to Saturday before 3d in September.)

Proceeded to appoint committees.

Committee to Arrange Preaching during the Session: J. E. Trayler, B. M. Spangler, H. Dunn, B. Thigpen, and H. S. Boling.

On Queries and Requests: W. A. Hutson, E. E. Haralson, G. Myers.

To Write Letters: A. Eastland, A. C. Gunn, A. Grissett.

On State of Religion and Publications: W. West, B. Sims, C. Copeland, A. Barbour, A. W. W. Grafton.

On Nominations: G. F. Smith, W. Sterling, D. Fore.

On Missions: A. Clarke, J. Herrington, A. G. Anderson, W. L. McIntosh, W. R. Butler.

On motion, the Moderator was added.

On Sabbath Schools: B. Thigpen, H. Cooper, E. Lard, W. C. Porter, O. F. Breland.

The Committee on Preaching having retired to arrange services for Sabbath, reported that Bro. N. L. Clarke preach at 11 o'clock, A. M., Bro. J. Carlile conclude: Bro. W. R. Butler in the evening, and Bro. W. A. Hutson close.

Resolved, That a public collection be taken up for Missions, after the forenoon service on Lord's Day.

On motion, adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., Monday.

Prayer by Bro. Hutson.

SABBATH.

The brethren labored to-day as per appointment, (except Bro. Carlile, who was unwell.) Bro. Clarke from 1 Sam'l 7c. 12 v.: "Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpeh and Shen," et seq.; after which, $13 40 was taken up for Domestic Missions, and $3 10 for Indian Missions.

Bro. Butler from 2 Cor. 8 c. 9 v. Bro. Hutson closed with a warm and impressive exhortation. Many came forward for prayer; God's people were much refreshed, and felt that it was good to be there. We trust that lasting good will result from this day's service.

MONDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Association met according to adjournment.

Praise and prayer by the Moderator.

The roll was called; Bros. W. J. West and C. Copeland, were marked absent. Bros. Herrington and Hutson appointed to preach at the stand this morning, and Bro. A. Clarke this evening.

On motion, Rules of Decorum read.

On motion, adopted former order of business.

Proceeded to arrange correspondence with other bodies. Appointed Bre'n N. L. Clarke, H. Cooper and J. E. Trayler, Messengers to Bethlehem Association.

To Ebenezer: Bre'n W. West and J. S. Calahan.

Harmony: Bre'n B. Sims and A. E. Eastland.

Resolved, That we discontinue correspondence with Strong River Association, owing to their regular time of meeting and ours corresponding, (both embracing 3d Sabbath of September, annually.)

Called for reports of committees.

Committee on Queries and Requests reported. Report received and adopted. (See Appendix A.)

Committee to Write Letters reported. Report adopted, after some amendment, and letters ordered to be given to our Messengers to the bodies we correspond with. (See Appendix B.)

Committee on State of Religion and Documents reported. Report adopted. (Appendix C.

Committee on Nominations reported. Report received and agreed to. (Appendix D.

Committee on Missions reported. Report adopted, after remarks by Bre'n Sims, McIntosh, the Moderator and others. (Appendix E.)

Committee on Finance reported; after amendment, report agreed to. (Appendix F.)

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. Received and adopted. (Appendix G.)

Proceeded to appoint representatives to the General Association of Regular Baptists South-East Mississippi. Appointed Bre'n B. Sims, A. C. Gunn, W. W. Hardy, M. McGee, B. M. Spangler, G. Myers, E. E. Haralson, W. Warren, W. West, A. W. W. Grafton, E. Lard, W. R. Butler, A. Eastland, J. S. Pledger, J. Pierce, Benj. Thigpen, W. C. Porter and J. Parker.

An intermission of half an hour.

Time expired and business resumed.

On motion of Bro. West,

Resolved, That this Association transfer all funds in her possession for benevolent purposes, including also the balance now on hand, sent up for associational purposes last year, to the Gen. Asso. Reg. Bap. S. E. Miss.; and instruct the Treasurer to hand over the same to our representatives of that body.

Resolved, That the fourth article of the Rules of Decorum, be so amended as to provide for the election of Treasurer; and also, the mode of electing officers, by ballot or otherwise.

Resolved, That the Clerk have the minutes printed, superintend their distribution, reserve a sufficient number for purposes of correspondence, receive twenty dollars for his services, and draw on the Treasurer for the necessary funds.

Resolved, That this Association hold her next regular meeting with Mt. Carmel Church, Smith county, Miss., on the road from Paulding to Brandon, one and a half miles West of Leaf River, and twelve miles North of Raleigh.

Resolved, That Elder John Williams preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Elder A. Clarke be his alternate.

Resolved, That Mt. Pisgah Church, and community, are hereby tendered the thanks of this body, for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have supported this meeting.

Resolved, That Ebenezer Church, Jasper county, Miss., have a letter of dismission from this body.

Whereas, it has been stated to this body that churches on her Western border may desire to be dismissed from this Association, in order to join in the formation of a new Association, be it, threfore,

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Association be authorized to issue letters of dismission to such churches, and report his proceedings in this behalf, at the next meeting of this body.

Resolved, That we now adjourn, to meet with Mt. Carmel Church, Smith county, Miss., Saturday before the third Lord's day in September, A. D. 1862.

The Minutes were read and adjusted. The brethren extended to each other the right hand of fellowship, while singing a hymn, amidst exhibitions of brotherly love and good feeling.

The Mt. Pisgah Association thus closed her twenty-fifth Annual Meeting in peace and harmony. Closing prayer by Bro. Butler. N. L. CLARKE, *Moderator*.

W. R. BUTLER, *Clerk*.

NAMES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFECES.

W. A. Hutson, Morton.
L. P. Murrell, Coonehatta.
N. L. Clarke, Decatur.
H. Gill, do
W. R. Butler, Hillsboro'.
A. Winstead, Herbert.
A. Clarke, Coonehatta.
Dan'l Dove, Union.
J. Herrington, Philadelphia.
Jno. Williams, Garlandsville.
W. West, Turnersville.
J. H. Rush, Citronelle, Ala.
J. A. Hitt, Pineville
Benj. Sims, Morton.
D. D. Booth, Dixon.
D. Killen, Union.
Geo. Myers, Union.

NAMES OF LICENTIATES AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

W. A. Hutts, Sebastopol.
B. F. Spangler, Battlefield.
J. Scarborough, do
J. Bell, Chunkeyville.
W. M. Flanagan, Garlandsville.
Jno. Thornton, Raleigh.
G. F. Smith, Coonehatta.
G. W. Barnes, Pineville.
J. R. Fletcher, do

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON QUERIES AND REQUESTS.

We, your Committee, find no queries and three requests: two for the next session of the Association, and one for a letter of dismission. We recommend that the requests of Mt. Carmel and Ebenezer churches be granted.

Respectfully submitted.

W. A. HUTSON, *Chairman.*

APPENDIX B.

Letter of Correspondence not ordered to be printed, but furnished in manuscript to Messengers. (See report of Committee to Write Letters.)

APPENDIX C.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE OF RELIGION AND DOCUMENTS.

From the letters of the churches, we find that some of them have enjoyed refreshing seasons from the presence of the Lord, while others complain of coldness and barrenness. Most of them are blessed with the stated preaching of the Word.

We recommend to those churches that complain of coldness, more activity in watchfulness and prayer, and reading the Word of God. On publications, we would recommend the Mississippi Baptist, Tennessee Baptist, and Baptist Correspondent.

Respectfully submitted.

W. WEST, *Chairman.*

APPENDIX D.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee nominate Elder John Williams to preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Elder A. Clarke his alternate.

Respectfully submitted.

G. F. SMITH, *Chairman.*

APPENDIX E.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee beg leave to report:

That they deem the work of Missions a great and important one, one in which all the churches composing our body, should feel an abiding interest, from the fact that we believe that God carries on his glorious work through instrumentalities; and missions is one of the grand means through which he operates, and through which the everlasting Gospel is to be sent to the utmost parts of the earth. We do not deem it necessary to argue the claims of missions upon this body to a great extent, as we are professedly a missionary people.

We, your committee, are aware that the times are hard and money very scarce, but we deem this one reason why the greater effort should be put forth, that our missionary operations may not relax. We would earnestly recommend that we put a proper estimate on the Gospel privileges which we enjoy in our respective settlements and churches, and then recollect how many of our fellow-beings are entirely deprived of this glorious privilege, and we are persuaded that we will be constrained to divide our means, whether much or little, to the extension of the glorious Gospel; and in order to carry on this great work of missions to the best advantage, we recommend that it be done through the General Association Reg. Bap. S. E. Miss., as we cannot conceive of any better plan to reach the destitution beyond our bounds.

Your Committee will conclude by recommending the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Association observes with feelings of regret, the seeming want of interest in the cause of missions in the churches composing the same, as evidenced by the declension in contributions for this purpose.

Resolved, That this body recommend to the churches composing it, to take into prayerful consideration their obligations to Christ to carry out his will in sending the Gospel to the destitute—those perishing for the bread of life.

Resolved, That this Association earnestly request and urge upon the pastors of the churches of this body, to impress the claims of missions upon their respective charges in the light of God's Word, and strive to cherish the missionary spirit, and stimulate the churches to greater liberality.

Respectfully submitted.

A. CLARKE, *Chairman.*

APPENDIX F.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee, while they have nothing very flattering to report, yet we are glad to say, that some of our churches are taking a lively interest in this benevolent and good object; so much so, that even where the male teachers have left their charges in this respect, to join the army, female teachers, we learn, are resolutely keeping up the schools in their absence. But we regret the neglect manifested in other churches, for we feel that it is a subject of importance, and well worthy the earnest attention of all our people. We, therefore, recommend the following resolutions, to-wit:

1st. *Resolved*, That in view of the great utility of Sabbath Schools to the community in general, and especially the youth of our country, we recommend every church to have a Sabbath School.

2d. *Resolved*, That the Baptist Sabbath School Books are the most suitable for the use of our schools, hence we recommend each school to procure a Library and Question books put forth by the Southern Baptist Sabbath School Union, published by the South-Western Publishing House, Nashville, Tenn.

Submitted, B. THIGPEN, *Chairman.*

ABSTRACT OF FAITH.

PREAMBLE.

We, the Churches of Jesus Christ, who have been regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith, and convinced of the utility of a combination of churches, and of maintaining a correspondence for the preserving of union amongst churches of the same faith, form ourselves into an Association upon the following principles, viz:

1. We believe in one Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, and are the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam from his original rectitude, and in him, all his posterity; in consequence of which, we inherit a fallen and depraved nature; consequently, the scriptural doctrine of the total depravity of human nature, and of man's inability to restore himself into the favor of God.

4. We believe that God hath loved his people with an everlasting love; that he chose them in Christ before the foundation of the world; that he calleth them with a holy and effectual calling, and being justified alone through the righteousness of Christ imputed to them, are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

5. We believe there is one Mediator between God and Man—the Man Christ Jesus—who, by the satisfaction he made to the law and justice, in becoming an offering for sin, hath by his most precious blood, become the end of the law for righteousness, to every one that believeth.

6. We believe that the Gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth—that he has commanded it to be preached to every creature, and requires all men to repent, believe and obey.

7. We believe that the Gospel is made effectual by the operation of the Holy Spirit, and that the sinner, in order to be saved, must be born again.

8. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, and are evidences of a gracious state, and all believers are bound to obey every command of God from a principle of love.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall consist of delegates chosen by the churches to which they respectively belong, and shall be styled the *Mount Pisgah*.

2. Such delegates shall be members in good standing, and no member under church censure shall be allowed a seat in the Association.

3. They shall produce letters certifying their appointment by their respective churches, and stating the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and deceased, during the preceding associational year, with the total number in fellowship, and such other statistical matters as the Association may direct.

4. This Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be annually chosen by a majority of the members present, by ballot or otherwise. Said officers shall fill their respective places, if present at the succeeding Association, until a new election takes place; and while in office, shall discharge the duties ordinarily incident to those offices.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the Association, they shall petition by letter and delegates, and, if orthodox and orderly, shall be received, and the Moderator shall recognize them by giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the body.

6. Every church shall be allowed two delegates and no more, until her number shall exceed one hundred—three, until it shall exceed one hundred and fifty, then four, and no more.

7. The Association shall neither answer nor debate any query on Gospel doctrine, except it be merely to explain the meaning of the Articles of Faith of this Association.

8. Every motion made in order and seconded, shall be reduced to writing, if requested by any member, and shall be considered by the Association, except withdrawn by the mover before discussion.

9. Motions made and lost, shall not be recorded on the minutes, unless so ordered at the time.

10. If any proposition or motion under debate, contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each point separately.

11. Only one member shall speak at the same time, who shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the subject properly in debate, cast no reflections on the Association, or any member thereof, and shall not be interrupted while speaking.

12. No person shall speak more than three times upon the same subject, without leave of the Association.

13. The Moderator shall have the privilege of speaking on any question in debate, the Chair being previously filled. He shall rise from his seat to put the question to the body.

14. The Moderator shall decide questions of order, but an appeal from such decision may be taken to the whole body, which shall be decided without debate.

15. A majority of the members present shall be necessary to carry any motion or proposition, and the Moderator shall vote as other members when the question is taken; and in case of a tie, the question shall again be put to the Association, and if not then decided, the Moderator shall proceed to decide the matter in controversy by lot.

16. Committees shall be nominated by the Moderator, subject to the approval of the Association.

17. There shall be no talking or whispering while a brother is speaking.

18. No brother shall finally depart from the Association without leave of the body.

19. The names of the Delegates shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and called over whenever thought necessary.

20. The Minutes shall be read and carefully corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the Association rise.

21. A motion for final adjournment shall be construed to involve the previous reading and adjustment of the Minutes.

22. The Association shall be opened by prayer.

23. Immediately after the organization of the Association, the Rules of Order shall be distinctly read by order from the Moderator.

24. The foregoing articles shall be subject to alteration or amendment, at any regular meeting of the Association, by a majority of the Association.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE MT. PISGAH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1861.

CHURCHES.	CO'S.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	POST OFFICES.	Baptized	Received by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Dead	White Males	White Females	Colored	Total Number	No. of Minutes	Asso. Purposes	Domestic Missions.	Time of Meeting	Ordained Ministers	Licentiates	Pastor or Supply.
Hillsboro'	Scott	A Eastland, W R Butler	Hillsboro'	1	3		1	2				64	35	$5 00	$6 00	4	1		W R Butler p
Union	"	H Dunn, J S Pledger	"	2	3	1				32	40	7	79	30	4 00		2		1	L P Murrell s
Sulphur Spring	"	A C Gunn		0	5					11	18	1	30	12	2 00		3			W A Hutson s
Pleasant Hill	Newton	A Clarke, G F Smith	County-Line	2	9	1			4	68	77	9	152	50	6 00		1	2	1	L P Murrell p
New Prospect	Scott	W Sterling	Co. nehatta	3	4	1		2				4	25	2	2 00		3			W A Hutson s
Ebenezer	Neshoba	M B Kirk, W W Pervis	Forest	3						13	22	16	51	20	2 00		2	1	1	D D Booth p
Sardis	Scott	J P Gray, Benj Talbot	High Hill	3			2			37	38	6	80	30	5 00		3		1	W R Butler s
New Prospect	Newton	Letter	Sebastopol	1	4	1		1	1	8	13	4	25	15	1 50					D Dove s
Enon	Neshoba	G Myers, O F Breland	County-Line	1	5					3	8	16	24	15	1 50		2	1		George Myers s
Fellowship	Lauderdale	D M Gilchris	Union	4	7		3	4		3	26	32	18	76	30	4 00	3 50	2		E Pace s
Zion	Kemper	S S Windham, L M Chism	Rushing's Store	4	1				3	12	19	3	34	15	1 50	4 00	3			J E White s
Bluff Springs	Neshoba	J Herrington	Calvert's Store	13	3		4	2		7	23	1	31	20	2 50		1	1		A Winstead s
Tallahatta	Newton	B M Spangler	Herbert	6	5		4													
Beulah	"	A Grissett, G Holyfield	Battlefield	0	1			2	2	20	28	2	50	20	2 00		2	1	2	A Winstead p
Decatur	"	N L Clarke, Ish'l Bailiff, H Cooper	Decatur	1	2	1	8	1		17	35	9	51	15	1 50		4	1	1	Dan'l Dove p
Poplar Spring	"	W J West	"	6	10		5	1		35	64	31	130	50	3 00		1	2		N L Clarke p
Pine Ridge	"	J D Parker, W Bigs	Newton Station	2			1			18	31		49	12	1 60		1			H Gill s
Bethel	"	E E Haralson, J M Kelly	Lake Station	1	1		2	4	3	15	28	9	52	25	2 00		4			L P Murrell s
Tallahala	Scott	Daniel Fore	Newton Station	1	9	1	5		3	18	40	3	71	25	4 00		3			L C Murrell s
Garlandsville	Jasper	W L McIntosh, W W Hardy	Garlandsville	8	2		2	2		19	24	1	44	20	2 00		1	1	1	Jno Williams s
Good Hope	Newton	J B Ishee, J Pierce	Buckley's Store		4	1	5	1	1	16	23	19	58	25	2 50		4			N L Clarke s
Mt. Pisgah	Jasper	J E Frayler, W C Porter	Garlandsville	1	1	2	10	1		14	23	3	40	20	1 75		3			N L Clarke s
Tallahoma	"	L S Lay, J Collins	"		2	1	7			17	26	2	45	20	2 00		2			Wm Thigpen s
				1	1	1	10	10	1	13	22		35	20	2 25		2			

Antioch	Jasper	W West, W Thigpen	Turnersville	13	8		7	1	1	31	19	2	82	30	3 00		3	1		W West p
Ebenezer	"	J A Wheeler	Claiborne	1	2				4	12	25	4	41	20	2 00		1			J Carlile p
Leaf River	Smith	J R Fletcher, W Warren	Pineville	28	4		6			19	47	8	74	30	3 00		1			J L Chandler s
Line Creek	Scott	W A Hutson	Morton	1		1				11	18	1	30	15	3 00		1	1		W A Hutson p
Mt. Carmel	Smith	A G Anderson, S H Boling	Pineville	11	1		3	2		24	31	9	65	25	3 50		3			Jno Williams s
Salem	"	W Floyd	Raleigh	5	1		9	2		14	30	1	45	20	2 50		1	1		J A Hitt p
Paulding	Jasper	Benj Thigpen, M McGee	Paulding				3			5	10	1	16	15	2 00		3			Wm Thigpen s
Hephziba	Newton	E Lard, J L Furguson	Hickory Store		2								14	15	2 00		2			H Gill p

Antioch	Jasper	W West, W Thigpen	Turnersville	13	3	7	1	1	31	19	2	82	30	3	00	3	1	W West	p
Ebenezer	"	J A Wheeler	Claiborne	1	2	1		4	12	25	4	41	20	2	00	1		J Carlile	s
Leaf River	Smith	J R Fletcher, W Warren	Pineville	28	4	6			19	17	8	74	30	3	00	1		J L Chandler	s
Line Creek	Scott	W A Hutson	Morton	1			1		11	18	1	30	15	3	00	1	1	W A Hutson	p
Mt. Carmel	Smith	A G Anderson, S H Boling	Pineville	11	1	3	2		24	3	9	65	25	3	50	3		Jno Williams	s
Salem	"	W Floyd	Raleigh	5	1	9	2		14	10	1	45	20	2	50	1	1	J A Hit	p
Paulding	Jasper	Benj Thigpen, M McGee	Paulding			3			5	10	1	16	15	2	00	3		Wm Thigpen	s
Hephzibah	Newton	E Lard, J L Furguson	Hickory Store		2							14	15	2	00	2		H Gill	p
County-Line	Jones	C Copeland, A Ulmer	Claiborne	7	2	3			12	5	2	29	15	1	50	2	1	J Anderson	s
High Hill	Smith	A Barber	Raleigh	2	2	2			7	5	1	23	20	1	50	2	1	J A Hit	s
County-Line	Neshoba	W E Wayne, A W W Grafton	Union		6				1	9	2	20	15	1	50	3		N L Clarke	s
Morton	Scott	B Sims, D S Smith	Morton		7	4		1	7	9	1	18	12	3	00	2	2	B Sims	p
*Siloam	Simpson	J S Callahan	Mt Olive	8						0	1	18	15	2	50	4		J A Hit	s
*Mt. Vernon	Jasper	R Blanchard, J Mixon	Mt Rose	2	1					7		12	15	1	50	3		W West	s
				131								1783	806						

*New Churches. —Herbert, Pinckney, Shiloh, Etahoma and Center Hill, not represented. Spring Hill and Hopewell, dissolved.

APPENDIX G.

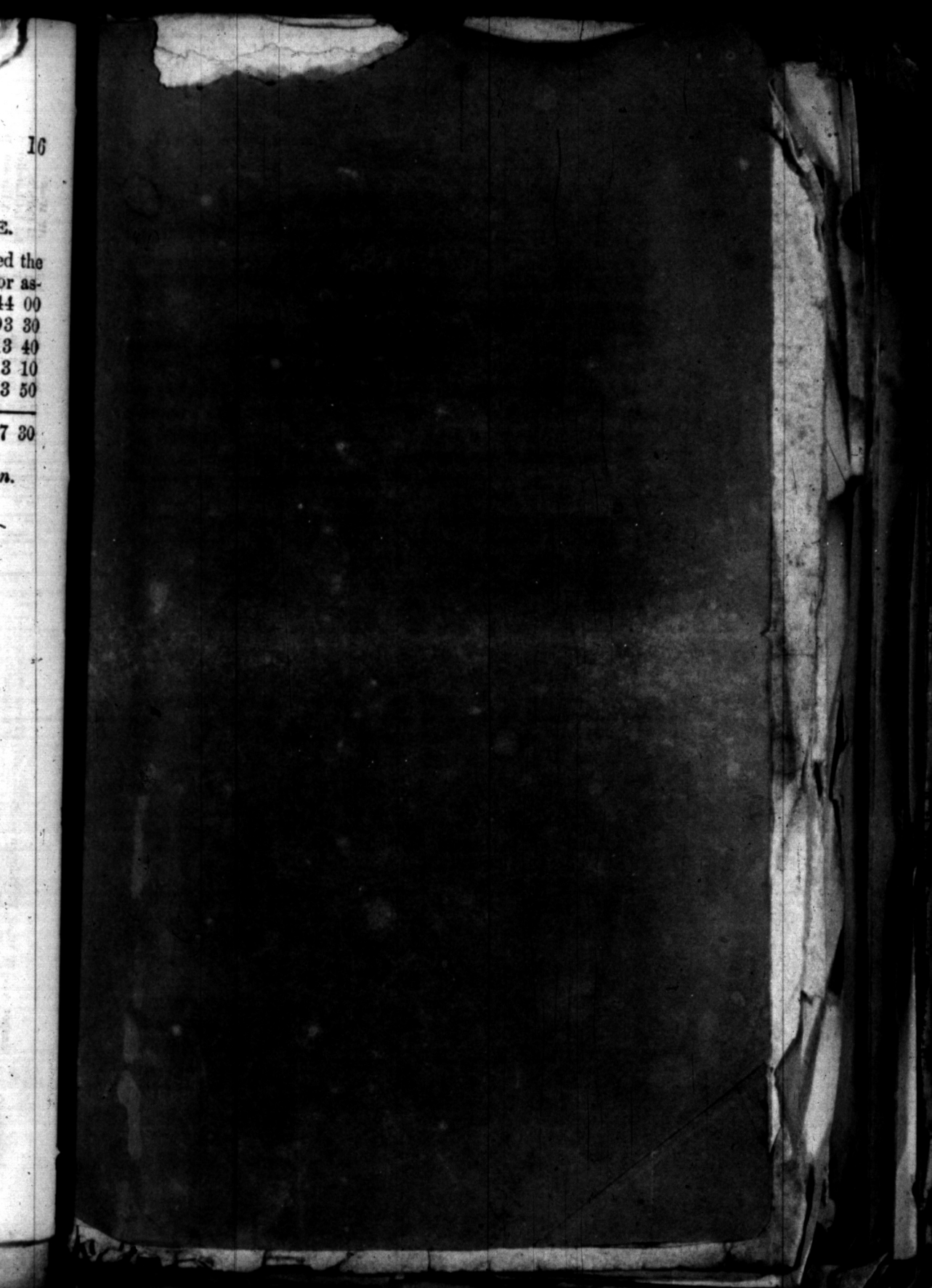
REPORT OF FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

Your Committee report, that they have examined the Treasurer's report, and find a balance in his hands for associational purposes, amounting to.....$44 00
Rec'd from churches for associational purposes.... 93 30
Pub col. Lord's Day, for Domestic Missions..... 13 40
" " " " Indian Missions..... 3 10
Sent up by churches for Domestic Missions..... 13 50

Total.....$167 30

Respectfully submitted.

W. L. McINTOSH, *Chairman.*



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MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY

MT. PISGAH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

HELD WITH MT. CARMEL CHURCH, SMITH CO., Sept. 20, 1862.

MT. CARMEL CHURCH, SMITH CO.,
September 20th, A. D. 1862.

The Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association met to-day in her twenty-sixth annual session, according to adjournment.

The introductory sermon was preached at the stand by Eld. John Williams, from Matt. 28: 20: "Teaching them to observe all things," &c.

After an intermission of half an hour, the delegates assembled in the church house, at the request of Eld. N. L. Clarke, the Moderator, who called the Association to order. Elder L. P. Murrell led in prayer.

Elders Searcy and Sims were appointed to preach at the stand this evening.

Bros. A. Eastland, A. C. Gunn and F. M. Poole were appointed to read letters.

Bro. T. J. Denson was appointed assistant clerk.

Bros. J. W. D. Duckworth, J. D. Hardy and G. W. Barnes were appointed Committee on Finance.

Letters were read from thirty-two churches, delegates names enrolled, and general statistics noted.

The following churches were not represented:

New Prospect, Newton county; Enon, Fellowship, Zion, Bluff Springs, Hephziba, Centre Hill. (See table of churches.)

The Association proceeded to the election of officers, which, on motion of Eld. Murrell, was done by acclamation, resulting in the re-election of former officers—Eld. N. L. Clarke, Moderator; W. R. Butler, Clerk, and Ish'l Bailiff, Treasurer.

The Moderator, before taking his seat, made a few appropriate remarks, and announced the Association ready for business.

On motion, visiting brethren were invited to seats.

Reading Rules of Decorum postponed till Monday.

The way was opened for the reception of new churches. The Homewood church presented a petitionary letter by the hand of her delegates, and, being found orthodox, was duly received into the fellowship of this body.

Called for correspondence from other bodies.

Received from Strong River Association, Eld. S. J. Hitt, presenting a minute certifying his appointment as a messenger from that body. From Ebenezer Association, Eld. J. P. Johnston, with a letter from said body.

Proceeded to appoint committees.

Committee on Preaching—W. L. McIntosh, E. W. Norwood, J. E. Trayler, and T. D. Collins, (who retired to make out their report.)

Committee on Queries and Requests—L. P. Murrell, A. Winstead, I. Bailiff, J. A. Hendon, and M. B. Kirk.

Committee to write letters—A. Eastland, F. M. Poole.

Committee on State of Religion—W. West, A. Grissett, N. B. Robertson, W. A. Hutson, P. M. Simmons.

Committee on Nominations—John Williams, D. Fore, M. H. Whatley, A. C. Gunn, J. A. Hitt.

Committee on Missions—W. R. Butler, B. Sims, S. S. Cross, W. Thigpen. W. L. McIntosh, on motion of the Moderator, was added.

Committee on Preaching reported that Bro. W. R. Butler would preach on Sabbath at 11 o'clock, A. M., and Bro. N. L. Clarke conclude; Bro. J. P. Johnston preach in the evening and Bro King conclude. Bros. Murrell and West preach on Monday, in the order of their names.

Resolved, That a public collection be taken up at the close of the 11 o'clock service on Lord's day, for Missions, and for the spiritual benefit of our soldiers.

Resolved, That this Association hereafter send two messengers to all bodies with which she corresponds, instead of only one, as heretofore.

On motion, proceeded to arrange correspondence with other bodies.

Appointed as follows: To Strong River Association, Elds. L. P. Murrell and J. A. Hitt.

To Ebenezer Association—Eld. J. A. Hitt, Bro. M. Waldrup.

To Bethlehem Association—Elds. W. West, N. B. Robertson.

To Harmony Association—Bros. A. Eastland, A. C. Gunn; with instructions to notify that body that, if the correspondence is not duly reciprocated, it will be discontinued by this Association.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., Monday. Benediction by the Moderator.

SABBATH, September 21st, 1862.

The brethren appointed to labor to-day, filled their respective appointments, except Bro. King, who was excused on account of indisposition. Bro. Butler preached from 2 Cor., 5: 14 and 15. Bro. Clarke from Psl. 37: 34—at the close of which a collection was taken up.

For Dom. Mission,.....	$49 90
" Indian and Foreign Missions,.....	5 20
Religious Reading for Soldiers,.....	37 95

Bro. Johnston preached in the evening from John 1: 17. There seemed to be a good interest throughout the congregation. Many gave signs of penitence by giving their hands, desiring prayer. We trust this day's labor will be "as bread cast upon the water."

Miss. Yet after all this, and due allowance made for the sa... your committee confess, with sorrow, that the fact forces its... upon them, that the spirit of Missions is cooling, and the lab... in that department of the gospel field is pressed with much less energy than in days gone by. Your Committee would ask, why is this? Has God changed? Has His command been withdrawn? Have our obligations ceased? Are souls less precious than heretofore? Are our means exhausted? Or, are we further from our accounts and the meeting of our Judge? Shall we relapse into non-effort and indifference? Your Committee earnestly recommend the churches and brethren composing this body seriously and prayerfully to take into consideration their duty to the Great Head of the church on this subject. Your Committee recommend that the funds on hand for Missions be sent up to the General Association S. B. Miss., and that sent up to furnish religious reading for the soldiers be committed to some faithful brother, by whom it may be so deposited as to reach the end for which it was contributed. Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Association observes with feelings of regret the seeming want of interest in the cause of Missions in the churches composing the same, as evidenced by the declension in contributions for this purpose.

2d. *Resolved*, That this body recommend to the churches composing it to take into prayerful consideration their obligations to Christ to carry out His will in sending the gospel to the destitute—those perishing for the want of the Bread of Life.

3d. *Resolved*, That this Association earnestly request and urge upon the pastors of the churches of this body to impress the claims of Missions upon their respective charges in the light of God's Word, and strive to cherish the missionary spirit and stimulate the churches to greater liberality.

W. R. BUTLER, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to make the following report:

We have examined the Treasurer's report, and find on hand for Associational purposes, as per his report, a balance of $ 4 30

Received from the churches, for Associational purposes, this session,	120 60
Received for Dom. Miss., from the Churches this session,	23 50
Public collection for Dom. Missions on Lord's day,	49 90
Public collection on Lord's day for procuring religious reading for our soldiers in the army	37 95
Public collection on Lord's day for Indian and Foreign Missions,	5 00
From Line Creek Church, Scott county, Miss, for procuring religious books for soldiers,	7 00
From Morton Church, Scott county, for same purpose,	15 00
Total amount received, as paid over to Treasurer,	$263 45

Respectfully submitted, J. D. W. DUCKWORTH,
Chairman.

MONDAY, 9 o'clock A. M., Sept. 22d, 1862.

Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. Bassett.

After calling the roll, (Bros. Bailey and Thigpen absent,) the Rules of Decorum were read.

Adopted former order of business.

Called for reports of committees.

Committee on Queries and Requests reported. Report received and adopted. (See Report No. 1.)

Committee to write letters reported. Report received and adopted. (See No. 2.)

Committee on State of Religion reported. Report received and adopted. (See No. 3.)

Committee on Nominations reported. Report received and adopted. (See No. 4.)

Committee on Missions reported. Report received and adopted. (See No. 5.)

Committee on Finance reported. Report received and adopted. (See No. 6.)

On motion of Elder S. S. Cross,

Resolved, That, in view of the great success which has attended the arms of our Confederacy in its noble struggle for independence, we, as a body, express our humble gratitude to God for his loving favor. And that we now suspend the regular business, sing a hymn of thanksgiving, and engage in prayer for the continuation of His favors.

An appropriate hymn was sung, and prayer offered by Bro. Murrell.

Proceeded to appoint representatives to the General Association of Reg. Baptists of S. E. Mississippi.

Appointed Bros. J. E. Trayler, F. M. Poole, N B. Robertson, T. J. Denson, A. C. Gunn, I. Bailiff, J. M. C. Newcomb, S. S. Cross, John Williams, B. F. Hendon, P. Palmer, J. S. Hinton, J. J. Hammons, W. A. Hutson, J. D. W. Duckworth, P. M. Simmons, T. D. Collins, D. Fore, W. R. Butler.

Resolved, That this Association send up all the funds on hand for Missionary purposes to the General Association Reg. Bap. S. E. Miss., and the same be handed over to our representatives to that body.

Resolved, That the 4th Rule of Decorum be so amended as to provide for the election of officers by ballot only.

Resolved, That the money on hand to aid in furnishing Religious Reading for our soldiers in the Army be handed to Bro. S. S. Cross, to be sent to its proper destination.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Association be instructed to have these Minutes printed, distribute the same, reserving a sufficient number for corresponding purposes, receive twenty-five dollars for his services, and draw on the Treasurer for the necessary funds.

Resolved, That we recommend the churches composing this body to meet at 10 o'clock, A. M., on the first Lord's day of each month for thanksgiving and prayer to God for his blessings to rest upon our soldiers and their destitute families.

WHEREAS, The reports of Committees heretofore made to this Association have failed to effect that for which they were intended, in stimulating the churches of the same to a discharge of their duties in establishing and maintaining Sabbath schools in each church organization; therefore,